

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-8 were pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, and 5 have been amended hereby. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification of the original application. For the reasons stated below, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Winstanley; and claims 4 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Winstanley and further in view of Yoshida. To the extent these rejections might still be applied to claims presently pending in this application, they are respectfully traversed.

SECTION 102 REJECTIONS

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Winstanley (US Patent 3,425,146).

Claim 1

Claim 1 recites an input device comprising a first and a second light source, a cap, a first and a second light guide, and a control module. The present invention allows users to quickly differentiate between the input states and choose the input mode. However, Winstanley discloses a light device for producing colored light effects such as for advertising. Winstanley at least fails

to disclose an input device including a cap vertically movable responsive to a pressing force by a user.

Further, claim 1 of the present invention recites a first light guide for guiding a first light and a second light guide for guiding a second light. The first light source disposes aside the first light guide and faces the sidewall of the first light guide. The second light source disposes aside the second light-guide and faces the sidewall of the second light guide. Referring to FIG. 2 and FIG. 3 of the present application, the light source is located aside the light guide. After the light is emitted in a first direction by the light source, the light is guided by the light guide to the cap in a second direction, i.e., from the sidewall of the light guide to the cap above the light guide. With reference to FIGs. 1-3 of Winstanley, the light apparatus includes a wall (2) and a casing (4) forming a cabinet (col. 3, lines 40-50), wherein the emitted light projecting to the screen (8) is not guided by any light guide aside the light source. Winstanley does not disclose the first light guide and the second light guide to guide the direction of light. Further referring to FIG.1 to FIG. 3 of Winstanley, the elements (4), (5), (8), (9), (10) are sequentially aligned in one direction to form an enclosure and the direction of the light is not changed. The thickness of the apparatus in the direction of light cannot be reduced. Thus, it should be understood that the light apparatus of Winstanley can not be implemented to the typical input device requiring a compact size, such as a mobile phone, notebook, PDA, etc. Therefore, Winstanley fails to disclose a first light guide and a second light guide to respectively guide the first and the second light from a first direction to a second direction substantially perpendicular to the first direction. Winstanley also fails to disclose a light source locating aside the light guide and facing the sidewall of the light guide.

Claim 1 of the present application also recites a control module controlling the first light source and the second light source by selectively sending a first signal and a second signal respectively corresponding to a first state and a second state. When the input device is in the first state, the control module controls the first light source to emit the first light in a first direction, and the first light is guided by the first light guide to the first portion in a second direction; and as the input device is in a the second state, the control module controls the second light source to emit the second light in the first direction, and the second light is guided by the second light guide to the second portion in the second direction. The second direction is substantially perpendicular to the first direction. The first state and second state respectively correspond to different input modes. When the state is changed, the control module control the first light source and second light source according to the state to indicate the current input mode. Please now refer to the abstract in Winstanley, which states "Sequentially operating switch means are provided which operate in predetermined time sequence to energize the light sources." Please also refer to col. 4, lines 31-48 in Winstanley, which states "the switch mechanism illustrated comprises two series of peripheral cams 11, 12 ... Since depending on the cam profiles any single lamp or combination of lamps can be energized during the course of a display sequence it will be appreciated that a wide variety of color effects can be obtained." It should be understood that Winstanley uses the cam profiles to energize the lamps in a display sequence. That is, the lamps of Winstanley are energized in a predetermined sequence for producing sequential colored light effects, such as advertisement. Therefore, Winstanley at least fails to disclose a control

module selectively controlling the first light source and the second light source corresponding to a first state and a second state respectively.

Based on the above discussion, Winstanley fails to disclose, teach, or suggest at least the above features of present invention. Accordingly, Applicant submits that amended independent claim 1 satisfies the patentability requirement and is allowable.

Claim 5

Claim 5 recites an electronic device having an input device. The input device comprises a light guide, a first and second light source, a cap, and a control module. Similar to the discussion of claim 1, Winstanley at least fails to disclose an input device having a cap vertically movable responsive to a pressing force by a user, a first and a second light source locating aside the light guide and facing the sidewall of the light guide, and a control module selectively controlling the first light source and the second light source corresponding to a first state and a second state. In Winstanley, the emitted light is not guided to the cap in a second direction and the thickness of the apparatus in the direction of light cannot be reduced.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the amended independent claim 5 satisfies the patentability requirement and is allowable.

Claims 2-3 and 5-7 respectively depend directly on allowable claims 1 and 5 and include further features. Therefore the above claims should also be allowable.

SECTION 103 REJECTIONS

Claims 4 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Winstanley in view of Yoshida (US Patent 6,761,462).

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Claims 4 and 8 respectively depend directly on allowable claims 1 and 5 and include further features. Therefore the above claims should be allowable.

CONCLUSIONS

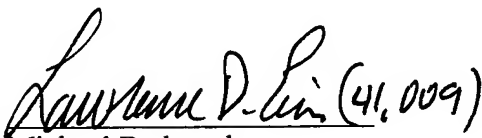
In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims 1-8 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejections. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: None

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